

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF

JAMES W. NEELY, P.E.

ON BEHALF OF

DOMINION ENERGY SOUTH CAROLINA, INC.

DOCKET NO. 2021-88-E

Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, BUSINESS ADDRESS, AND POSITION.

A. My name is James W. Neely and my business address is 220 Operation Way, Cayce, South Carolina. I am employed by Dominion Energy Services, Inc. as an Energy Market Consultant for Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. (“DESC” or the “Company”).

Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED IN THIS PROCEEDING?

A. Yes, I previously submitted direct testimony in this matter on behalf of DESC.

Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR REBUTTAL TESTIMONY?

A. I am responding to certain portions of the testimony of Brian Horii, which was submitted on behalf of the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff (“ORS”), and to that of Kenneth Sercy, which was submitted on behalf

1 of the South Carolina Coastal Conservation League and the Southern
2 Alliance for Clean Energy (“SCCCL/SACE”). The lack of a response to any
3 of the specific assertions made by these witnesses does not constitute the
4 Company’s agreement to those assertions.

5
6 **RESPONSE TO TESTIMONY OF BRIAN HORII**

7 **Q. WHAT IS YOUR RESPONSE TO WITNESS HORII’S ASSERTION**
8 **ON PAGES 5-6 OF HIS DIRECT TESTIMONY THAT YOUR**
9 **DEFINITION OF MARGINAL COSTS IS TOO NARROW?**

10 A. I do not agree. The definition of marginal costs provided in my
11 testimony is based on the way production cost models such as PLEXOS
12 calculate marginal costs and is appropriate for use in this context. Even Mr.
13 Horii agrees that my definition “is a common way marginal costs are
14 described.” Based on my definition, the marginal costs as defined and used
15 by PLEXOS—and commonly used in production cost models—do not meet
16 the definition of avoided costs because they do not represent costs to be
17 avoided. The difference between avoided costs and marginal costs is an
18 important distinction since PLEXOS is used to calculate both values.

19
20 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH WITNESS HORII’S ASSERTION ON PAGE**
21 **21 THAT DESC SHOULD USE 66 MW AS THE ASSUMED**

1 **CAPACITY CHANGE USED IN CALCULATION OF AVOIDED**
2 **CAPACITY?**

3 A. No. Using a capacity change of 100 MW is consistent with the
4 Company's calculation of avoided energy costs. Moreover, the MW change
5 should be reflective of the MW that the Company could expect that it would
6 be required to purchase from QFs over the next two years, and it is reasonable
7 to expect that several hundred MW of QFs will be built in the Company's
8 service territory over the next two years. Finally, PURPA specifically
9 provides that a utility may use a capacity change of up to 100 MW to
10 calculate avoided costs.

11
12 **Q. DO YOU AGREE THAT DESC SHOULD USE 2022 AS THE BASE**
13 **YEAR FOR THE AVOIDED CAPACITY CALCULATION?**

14 A. Yes. Witness Horii's recommendation on page 23 of his Direct
15 Testimony is correct and the Company accepts that proposal. This adjustment
16 would change the annual avoided capacity value from \$49.89/kW-year to
17 \$58.81/kW-year. Company witness Allen Rooks will sponsor updated tariffs
18 to reflect the change in the Company's proposal.

19 For non-solar QFs that qualify for the Standard Offer Rate and Rate
20 PR-1, the avoided capacity cost is now \$58.81/kW-year. This avoided
21 capacity rate will be paid during the months of December, January, and

1 February for energy generated from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. The annual value to be
2 paid for each of the 270 hours (90 days x 3 hours/day = 270 hours) during
3 this three-month period is \$0.21781/kWh ($\$58.81/\text{kW-yr.} \div 270 =$
4 $\$0.21781/\text{kWh}$).

5 The avoided capacity cost for solar QFs subject to the Standard Offer
6 Rate and Rate PR-1 is \$2.9405/kW-year. Incremental solar QFs above the
7 existing 973MW of existing power purchase agreements (“PPA” or “PPAs”)
8 have a 5% Effective Load Carrying Capacity (ELCC) rate. Five percent of
9 \$58.81/kW-yr. is \$2.9405/kw-yr. This capacity value will be paid out hourly
10 as \$0.00140/kWh ($\$2.9405/\text{kW-yr.} \div 8,760 \text{ hours} \div 23.9\% \text{ capacity factor} =$
11 $\$0.00140/\text{kWh}$).

12
13 **RESPONSE TO TESTIMONY OF KENNETH SERCY**

14 **Q. IS IT CORRECT THAT, AS CONTENDED BY WITNESS SERCY ON**
15 **PAGES 5 THROUGH 9 OF HIS DIRECT TESTIMONY, THE GAS**
16 **PRICES USED BY THE COMPANY IN CALUCLATING AVOIDED**
17 **COSTS WERE TOO LOW?**

18 **A.** No. The Company used the best available and most appropriate
19 information and projections in calculating its avoided costs. Witness Sercy’s
20 contention is that the Company should have used the same methodology that
21 it was required to use in the IRP proceeding. Specifically, he seeks to have

1 the Company use projected gas prices from the U.S. Energy Information
2 Administration (“EIA”) Annual Energy Outlook (“AEO”) projections
3 instead of the method it actually used, which was the NYMEX natural gas
4 futures prices and an escalation factor derived from the EIA AEO reference
5 case gas price forecast. Witness Sercy’s recommendation would not,
6 however, lead to more accurate gas price forecasts for this proceeding.

7
8 **Q. WHY WOULD WITNESS SERCY’S RECOMMENDATION NOT**
9 **RESULT IN MORE ACCURATE GAS PRICE PROJECTIONS?**

10 A. Witness Sercy fails to recognize that for calculating avoided costs, it
11 is necessary to derive the most accurate projection that can be ascertained at
12 the time the costs are calculated. EIA’s use of three gas forecasts does not
13 provide a single forecast and instead provides a broad and wide range of how
14 prices might develop depending on the development of numerous factors. So,
15 although using EIA’s AEO forecast of gas prices may be appropriate for
16 scenario analysis such as that developed in the IRP, use of those forecasts is
17 not appropriate or required in this proceeding because a prudent and reliable
18 avoided costs calculation requires a more accurate forecast than that provided
19 by the any of the three that EIA calculates once a year.

20

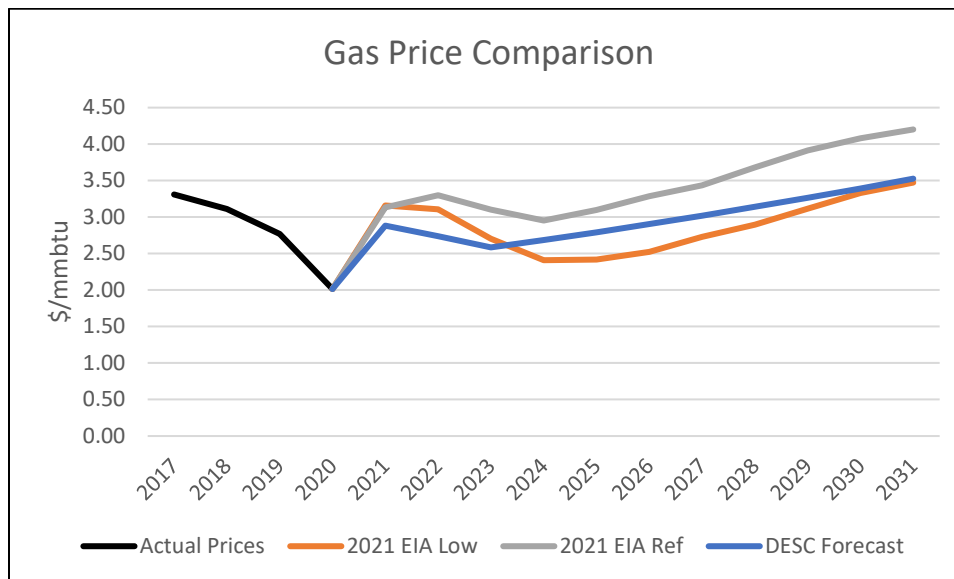
1 **Q. HOW DOES THE FORECAST USED BY DESC COMPARE WITH**
2 **THE EIA AEO FORECASTS?**

3 A. Very favorably, demonstrating that it is a prudent and reasonable
4 forecast within the very wide parameters identified by the EIA. Moreover,
5 the gas forecast used by DESC better represents the expected gas prices at
6 the time of the avoided cost calculation because it is created based on current
7 factors, whereas the EIA AEO projections are determined once a year and
8 market characteristics may have changed between the time those projections
9 were made and the calculation of DESC's avoided costs.

10
11 **Q. CAN YOU PROVIDE A COMPARISON OF DESC'S AVOIDED**
12 **COST CALCULATION WITH THE EIA AEO PROJECTIONS?**

13 A. Yes. In Chart 1, below, I show the EIA AEO 2021 Low and Reference
14 projections along with DESC's gas price projections. As can be seen in the
15 chart, DESC's projections compare very favorably with the AEO Low and
16 Reference case price projections.

Chart 1



Q. WOULD WITNESS SERCY'S RECOMMENDATION TO USE A BLENDED FORECAST INSTEAD OF THAT APPLIED BY THE COMPANY RESULT IN A MORE ACCURATE CALCULATION OF AVOIDED COSTS?

A. No. Although use of a blended forecast would be more accurate in the first year than his other proposals—because it would use the same numbers the Company used in the first year—his recommendation would suffer from the same deficiencies described above after the first year and long term.

Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH WITNESS SERCY'S ASSERTION ON PAGE 9 OF HIS DIRECT TESTIMONY THAT THE COMPANY

FAILED TO “USE A REASONABLE LOAD FORECAST IN ITS PROPOSAL”?

A. No, I do not. As shown in Table 1, below, the load forecast used in the Company’s avoided costs calculations is the Company’s latest forecast and comes directly from the 2020 Modified IRP and includes the appropriate level of DSM, as required in Order No. 2020-832. The Company has used this forecast for all of its analyses.

Table 1

Year	Annual Energy 2020 Modified IRP (GWh)	Annual Energy Avoided Cost (GWh)
2021	23937	23937
2022	24034	24034
2023	24152	24152
2024	24221	24221
2025	24213	24213
2026	24304	24304
2027	24388	24388
2028	24441	24441
2029	24507	24507
2030	24554	24554
2031	24785	24785

Year	Annual Peak 2020 Modified IRP (MW)	Annual Peak Avoided Cost (MW)
2021	4890	4890
2022	4939	4939
2023	4961	4961
2024	4973	4973
2025	4967	4967
2026	4984	4984
2027	4998	4998
2028	5013	5013
2029	5024	5024
2030	5031	5031
2031	5086	5086

Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH WITNESS SERCY’S STATEMENT THAT THE COMPANY’S LOAD FORECAST USED IN THIS

1 **PROCEEDING WAS 1.2% LESS THAN THAT USED IN THE 2020**
2 **MODIFIED IRP?**

3 A. No. Witness Sercy's assessment is incorrect because he used either
4 faulty analysis or data. I am unable to ascertain the sources of his errors.
5

6 **Q. HAS DESC INCLUDED IN ITS FILINGS THE INFORMATION**
7 **NEEDED TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE PRICING PERIODS**
8 **ARE REASONABLE?**

9 A. Yes. Contrary to Witness Sercy's characterizations on page 10 of his
10 Direct Testimony, DESC provided all the hourly marginal cost data as well
11 as the hourly dispatch data for all modeling used to determine the hourly
12 periods. In fact, Witness Sercy acknowledges on page 11, lines 11-13 of his
13 testimony that "DESC provided hourly system marginal cost data from
14 PLEXOS and included a 12 x 24 heat map matrix of average LMPs for each
15 12 months of the year and hour of the day." Witness Sercy was provided all
16 the data that DESC used to create the pricing periods.
17

18 **Q. WHAT IS YOUR RESPONSE TO WITNESS SERCY'S STATEMENT**
19 **ON PAGE 11 OF HIS DIRECT TESTIMONY THAT THE HEAT MAP**
20 **CONTAINS UNCLEAR AND INCONSISTENT INSTANCES AND**

1 **THAT HE IS UNABLE TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE PERIODS**
2 **ALIGN WITH THE COLOR PATTERN?**

3 A. I disagree. DESC's discovery responses provided sufficient
4 information to evaluate its avoided cost calculations. Specifically,
5 SCCCL/SACE received all the data that they requested in their three data
6 requests as well as the eight data requests from the other intervenors. The
7 following modeling data was provided to all intervenors as requested: ten
8 years of hourly loads; ten years of monthly gas prices; ten years of hourly
9 generation for all modeled generators for all modeled seeds; ten years of
10 hourly marginal costs for all modeled seeds, ten years of annual avoided
11 costs; and the 8,760-hour solar profile that was used. The data provided was
12 sufficient to determine the appropriateness of the Company's conclusions.

13
14 **Q. DOES THE PRODUCTION PROFILE OF A PROPOSED QF**
15 **ACTUALLY ALIGN WELL WITH THE PRODUCTION PROFILE**
16 **ASSUMED BY DESC IN DEVELOPING THE SOLAR QF ENERGY**
17 **RATE?**

18 A. Yes. Contrary to Witness Sercy's assertions on page 14 of his Direct
19 Testimony, the single solar profile used by the Company to create the solar
20 avoided cost was created using 20 single axis tracking systems currently
21 operating on the DESC system. DESC has relatively few fixed tilt systems

1 and trends suggest that future projects will be single axis tracking systems. It
2 is true that this profile may overstate the benefit that any one system would
3 be able to provide by removing much of the solar system variability and
4 giving locational diversity benefit to every system. However, the
5 methodology employed by the Company yields a prudent and reasonable
6 calculation of solar avoided costs because it aligns well with the operating
7 characteristics and technological nature of the solar generators actually
8 connected to the Company's system as well as those being proposed for
9 connection in the future. It should be noted that customers could
10 inappropriately pay more if Witness Sercy's recommendation is adopted.

11
12 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH WITNESS SERCY'S ASSERTIONS ON**
13 **PAGES 14-15 OF HIS DIRECT TESTIMONY THAT THE TIME OF**
14 **PRODUCTION AVOIDED COST PROVIDED FOR NON-SOLAR**
15 **QFS ALSO BE APPROPRIATE FOR SOLAR ONLY QFS?**

16 A. No. The system dispatch requirements for including solar QFs are
17 more costly than those for non-solar QFs. For this reason, the avoided cost
18 for solar QFs must be less than that of a non-solar QF, which can typically
19 generate around the clock and does not require the constant ramping of other
20 resources as is needed with solar QFs. A second problem arises as more and
21 more solar is added to the system in that there are hours when solar is adding

1 power to the system when it is not needed and therefore it has no value. Those
2 hours are captured in the solar avoided cost.

3

4 **Q. IS WITNESS SERCY CORRECT ON PAGE 15 OF HIS DIRECT**
5 **TESTIMONY THAT “THERE ARE NO REAL ISSUES SPECIFIC TO**
6 **STANDALONE SOLAR PV THAT NECESSITATE A SOLAR-**
7 **SPECIFIC RATE”?**

8 A. No. This perhaps could have been true for the first 300 MW of solar
9 that was added to DESC’s system but is no longer correct now that more than
10 1,200 MW of solar is generating or is party to a signed PPA. The large
11 amount of solar relative to the total system load causes real issues now and
12 those issues will increase in severity as more solar generators with the same
13 or a similar profile are added. The purpose of this avoided cost filing is to
14 correctly value new QFs that will be added over the next two years.

15

16 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH WITNESS SERCY’S STATEMENT ON**
17 **PAGE 16 OF HIS DIRECT TESTIMONY THAT USING A**
18 **LOCATIONAL MARGINAL PRICING (“LMP”) SYSTEM WOULD**
19 **BE A GOOD SOLUTION FOR DESC?**

20 A. No. The problem with this suggestion is that solar generators tend to
21 locate where land is plentiful but load is absent. A 75 MW solar generator

1 needs a minimum of 400 acres of space—in most cases much more—and,
2 consequently, tends to locate in area of low population density and, thus, low
3 system load. Because of this, the locational avoided costs under the LMP
4 system would be lower for many solar generators.

5
6 **Q. IS MODELING WILLIAMS STATION AS MUST-RUN**
7 **APPROPRIATE?**

8 A. Yes. Contrary to Witness Sercy's suggestions on pages 16-17 of his
9 Direct Testimony that doing so creates uneconomical dispatch, modeling
10 Williams Station as must-run reflects real world conditions and constraints
11 on the DESC system. Specifically, modeling Williams Station as other than
12 must-run would artificially reduce the avoided cost values that DESC has
13 calculated. In other words, adopting Witness Sercy's suggestion would also
14 lead to a reduction in the calculated amount of avoided costs, which he
15 presumably opposes. Modeling Williams Station as must-run facilitates the
16 accurate calculation of avoided costs that do not disadvantage the QF or the
17 customer.

1 **Q. DO DESC'S AVOIDED ENERGY RATE PROPOSALS FAIL TO**
2 **ACCURATELY REFLECT DESC'S AVOIDED COSTS AS**
3 **REQUIRED BY THE EFA?**

4 A. No. Witness Sercy has provided no evidence to support his accusation
5 on page 17 of his Direct Testimony that DESC avoided energy rates fail to
6 accurately reflect DESC's expected avoided energy costs. The only basis he
7 advances for this assertion are his criticisms of the gas price projections and
8 load assumptions, but these criticisms are unfounded for the reasons I have
9 explained above. Moreover, his assertions regarding a single technology-
10 neutral rate are unfounded and do not constitute a more reasonable alternative
11 than the solar and non-solar rates developed by the Company.
12

13 **Q. IS IT TRUE AS WITNESS SERCY CLAIMS ON PAGE 18 OF HIS**
14 **DIRECT TESTIMONY THAT QFS WILL "ONLY BE**
15 **COMPENSATED AT THE FULL AVOIDED CAPACITY RATE IF**
16 **THEY GENERATE DURING ALL AVOIDED CAPACITY**
17 **PAYMENT HOURS"?**

18 A. Yes, and that is appropriate. For example, if non-solar QFs only
19 generate their full capacity in one of the three hours where the capacity need
20 is defined, then they would only be compensated for one third of the full
21 avoided capacity payment. Or, if the non-solar QFs generate at one half of

1 their capacity in all hours, then they would only be compensated with one-
2 half of the full capacity payment. Any other way of paying for capacity would
3 cause DESC's customers to pay for something they did not receive. This
4 would be in direct conflict with the requirements of Act No. 62 which
5 specifically requires that approved "rates for the purchase of energy and
6 capacity fully and accurately reflect the electrical utility's avoided costs" and
7 that "any decisions by the [C]ommission shall be just and reasonable to the
8 ratepayers of the electrical utility."

9
10 **Q. IS IT TRUE THAT, AS WITNESS SERCY STATES ON PAGES 18-19**
11 **OF HIS DIRECT TESTIMONY, THE UTILITY'S OWN**
12 **GENERATORS SHOULD BE PENALIZED IN THE AVOIDED**
13 **CAPACITY CALCULATION USING A PERFORMANCE**
14 **ADJUSTMENT FACTOR ("PAF")?**

15 **A.** No. The avoided energy costs calculation is the appropriate place to
16 address the forced outages of the Company's own resources. All Company
17 owned generators are modeled with forced outage rates, maintenance
18 outages, ramp rates, and all other constraints which result in an appropriate
19 calculation of the avoided energy costs. The avoided cost calculations do not
20 penalize any resource but do accurately calculate the avoided energy and
21 capacity values of both solar and non-solar resources.

1 In other words, the capacity cost calculation does not use a specific
2 utility owned resource. It uses the construction and fixed O&M of a potential
3 new resource that is chosen because it is appropriate for estimating system
4 capacity value. Construction costs and fixed O&M is sufficient to estimate
5 system capacity value. A PAF that artificially inflates capacity values is not
6 needed or appropriate.

7

8 **Q. REGARDING THE AVOIDED CAPACITY RATES, WITNESS**
9 **SERCY CONTENDS ON PAGE 20 OF HIS DIRECT TESTIMONY**
10 **THAT DESC’S ASSUMPTIONS FOR CERTAIN TECHNOLOGY**
11 **COSTS WERE “UNREASONABLY LOW.” WHAT IS YOUR**
12 **RESPONSE TO THAT?**

13 A. I disagree. The aero-CT costs used came from the interactions with
14 turbine vendors and accurately reflect the costs that DESC would have to pay
15 for the turbine being modeled. First, to use a generic cost is not appropriate
16 when actual cost data is available. In addition, to inflate the cost for the
17 purpose of increasing the compensation of QFs above actual avoided cost is
18 in in direct conflict with Act No. 62, which requires that “rates for the
19 purchase of energy and capacity fully and accurately reflect the electrical
20 utility’s avoided costs” and “any decisions by the [C]ommission shall be just
21 and reasonable to the ratepayers of the electrical utility.” Modeling costs that

1 are higher actual costs would penalize the utility's customers and not
2 accurately reflect the utility's avoided cost.
3

4 **Q. WHAT IS YOUR RESPONSE TO WITNESS SERCY'S ASSERTION**
5 **ON PAGE 27 OF HIS DIRECT TESTIMONY THAT HE CANNOT**
6 **FULLY EVALUATE THE ELCC CALCULATION BECAUSE HE**
7 **LACKS SUFFICIENT INFORMATION?**

8 A. I disagree that the Company has not provided sufficient information
9 to evaluate the ELCC calculation. The discovery process is available to
10 intervenors to request any data, calculations, models, etc. to evaluate the
11 Company's calculations as well as answer any questions with regard to those
12 calculations. Intervenors used this process to submit extensive and detailed
13 discovery requests to the Company and, in response, a complete set of data
14 and the SAS program used to calculate the ELCC was provided to all
15 intervenors by the Company.
16

1 **Q. AND DO YOU AGREE WITH WITNESS SERCY'S ASSERTIONS ON**
2 **PAGES 23-24 OF HIS DIRECT TESTIMONY REGARDING THE**
3 **USE OF INDUSTRY STANDARD INFORMATION AND BEST**
4 **PRACTICES IN CALCULATING THE ELCC?**

5 A. No, I do not. Witness Sercy fails to provide any data or analysis to
6 support this assertion. An ELCC calculation need not be complicated in order
7 to effectively calculate the capacity benefit that solar provides to the DESC
8 system. There are three simple steps in DESC's ELCC calculation. In Step 1
9 the LOLH index is calculated indicating the hours per year of expected
10 capacity shortfall. In Step 2, the reliability impact of adding another
11 increment of solar is calculated, which is observed by the change to the
12 LOLH index. Typically, the LOLH index decreases indicating an increase in
13 reliability. The goal of Step 3 is to determine the point at which the LOLH
14 index returns to the base setting, and this is estimated by either increasing the
15 system loads or equivalently decreasing the system capacity. Since there are
16 8,760 hours of system loads, it is easier to simply decrease the system
17 capacity, which is what is done. Therefore, the ELCC capacity value of the
18 incremental solar has a firm capacity equal to the system capacity value
19 necessary to return the LOLH value back to the initial value.

20

1 **Q. IS WITNESS SERCY’S STATEMENT ON PAGE 26 OF HIS DIRECT**
2 **TESTIMONY THAT THE “ELCC RESULTS MAY BE**
3 **UNDERVALUING SOLAR PV” REASONABLE?**

4 A. No, it is not. If anything, the 5% ELCC is very generous since DESC’s
5 need for capacity is based on winter peaks and any new capacity should help
6 meet the winter peak in order to avoid any future capacity costs. Witness
7 Sercy’s assertion in this regard is based largely on his reference to a
8 Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (“LNBL”) study. However, this
9 study is based on solar capacity credits calculated using the load duration
10 method for certain Florida municipal utilities. But Florida electric utilities
11 and municipal utilities, for many reasons, have completely different
12 operating characteristics than those of DESC.

13 There are many reasons for this. Obviously, DESC is not located in
14 Florida nor is it a municipal utility. But above and beyond those differences,
15 each utility has a unique set of generating assets, a unique set of customers
16 and therefore a unique load profile. Operating characteristics such as the
17 utility’s need for additional summer capacity versus the need for additional
18 winter capacity will make a large difference in the ELCC calculation.
19 Utilities who need additional summer capacity will obviously obtain more
20 benefit from solar generators than utilities whose need is for additional winter

1 capacity, like DESC, since a utility's winter load profile doesn't align well
2 with the solar profile.

3 In short, the LBNL report is based on different utilities with different
4 operating characteristics and different load profiles. Comparing DESC to
5 these utilities is not an effective way to draw meaningful conclusions.
6

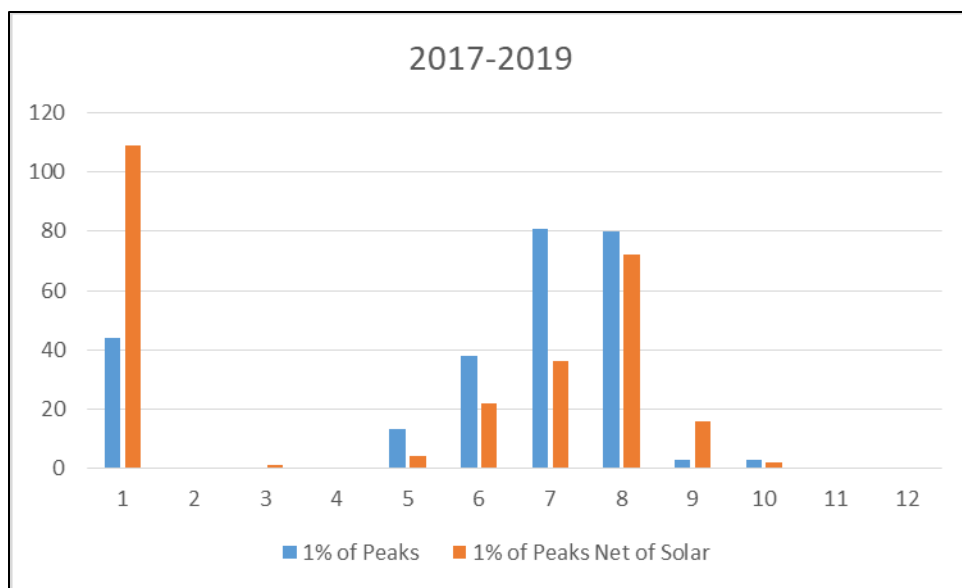
7 **Q. IS WITNESS SERCY CORRECT ON PAGES 28-29 OF HIS DIRECT**
8 **TESTIMONY THAT DESC'S NON-SOLAR CAPACITY VALUE IS**
9 **FLAWED BECAUSE IT PROVIDES ALL THE BENEFIT IN A**
10 **THREE-HOUR WINTER WINDOW AND IS IT TRUE THAT THE**
11 **COMPANY DOES NOT PROVIDE ANY BASIS IN TESTIMONY OR**
12 **INITIAL DISCOVERY FOR THIS ASSUMPTION?**

13 A. No; neither of these assertions is correct. DESC provided data and
14 response in SCCCL/SACE Data Request 2-10 substantiating the
15 reasonableness of the three-hour winter time period. Witness Sercy failed to
16 factor into his assumptions the difference in reserve margin requirements
17 between summer and winter on the DESC system. With a 21% winter reserve
18 margin requirement and a 14% summer reserve margin requirement, plus
19 available existing summer solar capacity, all of the need for additional
20 capacity is driven by winter demand. Additional summer capacity does not
21 avoid any future capacity costs and therefore avoided capacity credits are

earned by resources that can help meet winter peaks. Providing solar capacity with a 5% capacity credit which is paid every hour that solar generates is appropriate.

In addition the analysis that Witness Sercy made which is presented in his Figure 3 is flawed. He obviously used incorrect data and/or assumptions. For instance, Witness Sercy says he included 1% of the peaks from years 2017-2019 but his graph includes around 400 data points. If he used 1% of the peaks from 2017 to 2019, there would be only 262 data points. In addition there are other issues with his chart, which I have taken the liberty of correcting in the chart below:

Corrected Sercy Figure 3



Because of the difference in reserve margin, all new capacity needs are driven by the winter peaks—the summer peaks are not included in the

1 calculation of avoided capacity costs. Solar producers are appropriately
2 compensated for capacity in every hour that they generate based on the ELCC
3 calculation. Non-solar is appropriately compensated for capacity in the three-
4 hour winter window.

5

6 **Q. WHAT IS YOUR RESPONSE TO WITNESS SERCY'S CLAIM ON**
7 **PAGE 31 OF HIS DIRECT TESTIMONY "THAT THE COMPANY'S**
8 **APPROACH TO RESOURCE ADEQUACY IS SERIOUSLY**
9 **DEFICIENT"?**

10 A. I disagree. This claim is based on his assertions regarding various
11 factors or assumptions used in the calculation of the avoided capacity rates.
12 However, for the reasons I have explained above, Witness Sercy is mistaken
13 in these assertions. Adding additional summer capacity on the DESC system
14 does not currently avoid any future capacity and therefore does not create
15 avoided capacity costs. The avoided capacity costs determined by the
16 Company are based upon a reasonable and prudent evaluation of the DESC
17 system.

18

19 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH WITNESS SERCY'S STATEMENT ON**
20 **PAGE 32 OF HIS DIRECT TESTIMONY THAT "DESC'S AVOIDED**
21 **CAPACITY RATES DO NOT PUT SMALL POWER PRODUCERS**

1 **ON EQUAL FOOTING WITH UTILITY-OWNED RESOURCES AS**
2 **REQUIRED” BY ACT NO. 62?**

3 A. No. Act No. 62 lays out three specific conditions for ensuring that
4 small power purchases are on a fair and equal footing with electrical utility
5 owned resources by ensuring that:

6 (1) rates for the purchase of energy and capacity fully and
7 accurately reflect the electrical utility’s avoided costs;

8 (2) power purchase agreements, including terms and conditions,
9 are commercially reasonable and consistent with regulations
10 and orders promulgated by the Federal Energy Regulatory
11 Commission implementing PURPA; and

12 (3) each electrical utility’s avoided cost methodology fairly
13 accounts for costs avoided by the electrical utility or incurred
14 by the electrical utility, including, but not limited to, energy,
15 capacity, and ancillary services provided by or consumed by
16 small power producers including those utilizing energy storage
17 equipment. Avoided cost methodologies approved by the
18 Commission may account for differences in costs avoided
19 based on the geographic location and resource type of a small
20 power producer’s qualifying small power production facility.

1 All three of these conditions are appropriately represented in the avoided
2 costs calculated and filed in this docket.

3
4 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH WITNESS SERCY'S STATEMENT ON**
5 **PAGE 32 OF HIS DIRECT TESTIMONY THAT "THE AVOIDED**
6 **CAPACITY COST CALCULATION USES UNREASONABLY LOW**
7 **INPUT ASSUMPTIONS, SUCH THAT THE RESULTING RATES DO**
8 **NOT ACCURATELY REFLECT DESC'S AVOIDED COSTS"?**

9 A. No. Witness Sercy has provided no evidence to support this criticism.
10 My responses provided above explain the appropriateness of the inputs that
11 were used.

12
13 **Q. WHAT IS YOUR RESPONSE TO WITNESS SERCY'S STATEMENT**
14 **ON PAGE 32 OF HIS DIRECT TESTIMONY THAT "THE SOLAR**
15 **QF RATE ELCC APPLICATION AND TECHNOLOGY-NEUTRAL**
16 **RATE ALLOCATION OF CAPACITY VALUE ARE LIKELY**
17 **UNDERMINING ACCURATE REFLECTION OF UTILITY**
18 **AVOIDED COSTS IN RATES"?**

19 A. I disagree. Witness Sercy again has provided no evidence to support
20 this assertion and, as I explained above, the Company's avoided cost

1 calculations reasonably consider appropriate factors consistent with the
2 statutory requirements.

3
4 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH WITNESS SERCY'S**
5 **CHARACTERIZATION ON PAGES 33-34 OF HIS DIRECT**
6 **TESTIMONY THAT THE DESC AVOIDED COST FILING IS NOT**
7 **TRANSPARENT?**

8 A. No. Company Witness Kassis fully addresses this criticism in his
9 Rebuttal Testimony. In addition, however, I want to point out that Act No.
10 62 states that "[e]ach electrical utility's avoided cost filing must be
11 reasonably transparent so that underlying assumptions, data, and results can
12 be independently reviewed and verified by the parties and the commission."
13 DESC has been fully transparent. The DESC avoided cost filing and the
14 information and documentation that has been provided to the intervenors
15 through discovery in response to their extensive requests completely negates
16 Witness Sercy's contention.

17
18 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR REBUTTAL TESTIMONY?**

19 A. Yes.